

1 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3**

2 (By Delegate Poore)

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6 Requesting that the Joint Committee on Government and Finance
7 authorize a study of the potential of state tax incentives to
8 benefit employers who hire persons with criminal records.

9 WHEREAS, Persons with criminal records who have "served their
10 time" and "paid their debt to society" have almost no chance at
11 employment, because of their criminal record, following their
12 release from incarceration, parole or probation. Many of these ex-
13 offenders deserve a second chance and an employment opportunity in
14 order to become productive citizens; and

15 WHEREAS, The United States Government offers a federal tax
16 credit of up to \$2,400 for employers who hire ex-offenders,
17 including those with felony records. States can offer an
18 additional tax break to businesses who hire persons with criminal
19 records as one way to support the reentry of those who are
20 legitimately trying to return to the job market in order to support
21 their families and rejoin their communities; therefore, be it

22 *Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

23 That the Joint Committee on Government and Finance is hereby
24 requested to authorize a study of the law governing state tax

1 incentives to benefit employers who hire people with criminal
2 records; and, be it

3 *Further Resolved*, That the Joint Committee on Government and
4 Finance report to the Regular Session of the Legislature, 2012, on
5 its findings, conclusions and recommendations, together with drafts
6 of any legislation necessary to effectuate its recommendations;
7 and, be it

8 *Further Resolved*, That the Legislative expenses necessary to
9 conduct this study, to prepare a report and to draft necessary
10 legislation be paid from legislative appropriations to the Joint
11 Committee on Government and Finance.